

Minutes of the Judiciary and Law Enforcement Committee – February 12, 2010

Chair Bonnie Morris called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m.

Committee Members Present: County Board Supervisors Bonnie Morris (Chair), Dave Falstad, Jean Tortomasi, Kathleen Cummings, Paul Decker, Peter Wolff (left at 9:54 a.m.).

Absent: Supervisor John Pledl.

Also Present: Legislative Policy Advisor Dave Krahn, Legislative Associate Karen Phillips, Budget Management Specialist Linda Witkowski, Legislative Policy Advisor Sarah Spaeth, Emergency Preparedness Director Richard Tuma, Architectural Services Manager Dennis Cerreta, Captain Kevin McDonald, Public Works Director Allison Bussler, Inspector Steve Marks, Judge Bill Domina, Judge Michael Bohren.

Discuss and Consider Ordinance 164-O-088: Accept Homeland Security-Urban Area Security Initiative FY2009 Program Funding And Modify The Emergency Preparedness 2010 Budget To Appropriate Grant Revenues And Expenditures For Interoperable Communications Projects

MOTION: Cummings moved, second by Decker, to approve Ordinance 164-O-088.

Tuma was present to discuss this ordinance to allow acceptance of a grant award in the amount of \$152,000. The grant is 100% funded through the Department of Homeland Security. This funding would pay for forty, 800 MHz radios, batteries, chargers, installation and programming costs for the Department of Emergency Management, Town of Mukwonago, and Villages of Mukwonago and Menomonee Falls. After the installation of the 800 MHz radios for the Village and Town of Mukwonago, all law enforcement agencies in Waukesha County will have access to the 800 MHz trunking radio system. A cache of radios will be established in the Department of Emergency Management for large-scale events such as the recent H1N1 clinics.

Motion carried: 6-0.

Discuss and Consider Ordinance 164-O-086: Acceptance Of Computer Equipment Donation From The Innocent Justice Assistance Foundation

MOTION: Cummings moved, second by Falstad, to approve Ordinance 164-O-086.

To answer Tortomasi's question, Marks explained that the goal of the Innocent Justice Assistance Foundation is to support law enforcement agencies nationwide battling on the front lines to protect innocents (children), give justice to abused children, take predators off the streets, and make neighborhoods safe again.

Marks explained this ordinance authorizes the Sheriff's Department to accept a donation of computer equipment valued at \$12,000. The Computer Forensics unit will use the equipment for increased storage capacity to save case-related information until it is no longer needed in the court process.

Motion carried: 6-0.

Discuss and Consider Ordinance 164-O-087: Amend Sheriff's Department 2010 Budget Expenditure Of Donated Funds

MOTION: Falstad moved, second by Tortomasi, to approved Ordinance 164-O-087.

Marks explained this ordinance authorizes the expenditure of donated funds to acquire and train a dog to replace a retiring canine unit dog. This will allow the Department to maintain the canine unit at the current level of four dogs.

There is approximately \$12,400 in donated funds currently available. The Waukesha County Deputy Sheriff's Association will donate up to approximately \$3600, for a total of \$16,000 for the purchase and training of a new canine. The dog that is retiring will stay with its handler, and the new dog will be placed with that same handler. The new dog, a Belgian Malinois, will arrive from Europe partially trained. The dog and the handler will then be sent together for training in North Carolina. The dogs are trained to function in both patrol and drug-detection roles.

Morris asked about the sources of the donated funds. Marks replied the donations come mainly from fundraisers. The Deputy Sheriff's Association raises funds through sales and charity events specifically for this purpose. One of the biggest sources of donated funds for the canine unit comes from fundraisers held by a group of employees at Wal-Mart on Highway 164 in Waukesha.

Motion carried: 6-0.

Update on Medical Examiner Project

Cerreta distributed before and after photographs of the Medical Examiner facility project. He stated that Magill Construction Company was an excellent contractor and the project went very smoothly. The total project is on time and on budget. The final move in date is set for the first week of March. Cerreta encouraged the Committee members to tour the Medical Examiner facility to see the impressive finished project.

Update on Secured Corridor Project

Bussler and Cerreta presented a summary of the progress on the Secured Corridor Project. Cerreta circulated an architectural rendition of the proposed plan. Cerreta said he was pleased to report a solution has been reached that is acceptable to all parties. The window issue has been resolved by making a slight change to the angular wall where the east portion of the tower connects to the Courthouse. The newly designed wall is now rectilinear and allows eight windows to be preserved without having to use fire resistant glass or rated drywall inserts. To address Morris's concern, Cerreta assured that all of the windows that need fire resistant glass would be included in the bid. He clarified that a total of over 40 windows are affected. Some additional fire-resistant windows have been added in as an alternate deduct.

Cerreta further discussed the 10-foot rule in relation to sprinkler requirements, and how moving the structure out to 10 feet and 1 inch resolved the problematic issue. Cerreta noted other changes include a connection to the Family Court area on the third floor, which was previously an alternate. Bussler further clarified details of additional changes to the plan. Cerreta and Bussler agreed that a favorable bidding climate is anticipated for this project.

Cerreta said because of the changes, the bid date has been extended to March 9th. The contractors are aware of the revisions, and another walk-through will take place on February 25th. Morris requested

that Cerreta appear at the March 12th Judiciary and Law Enforcement Committee meeting with an update on the bids.

Courthouse Security – Annual Update

McDonald distributed handouts summarizing the 2008 and 2009 security incidents and activity for the Waukesha County Campus. Marks was present to provide supplemental information.

McDonald noted that reporting methods are improving each year and more incident information is being captured in the reporting system, though some tweaking still needs to be done. He continued with a review of the 2009 statistics (as compared to 2008) as outlined, including the following highlights.

- Number of incidents in went up 10%, possibly due to deputies reporting more incidents that were not reported in the past
- Arrests went up 18 %
- Physical altercations went down 50%, from 2 to just 1
- Total number of referrals went up 82%, mainly due to change in policy (issuing more citations, referring more to the DA's Office)
- Events at the Juvenile Center are now being tracked – small claims cases, administrative, and court matters are also being handled there, resulting in a 40% increase in reported events.
- In 2007, an average of 1095 people per day passed through the security screening in the Courthouse, about 20 per day were turned away with prohibitive items. In 2008 and 2009, an average of 14 out of 1087 and 12 out 1010 of people entering the courthouse per day were turned away, respectively
- Numbers of people entering the Courthouse have gone down due to the move of the ADRC to the HHS building and the transfer of some adult court cases to the Juvenile Center.

Tortomasi asked how often disturbances, such as verbal altercations, are due to people being turned away because they have prohibitive items in their possession. McDonald said there are verbal confrontations on a daily basis at the screening station. The staff handles these situations in a very professional manner. The worst month is December because there are so many people coming to pay their taxes who are not familiar with the screening policies and procedures. There was further discussion regarding the amnesty box and possibilities for the disposition of the items that have been surrendered. McDonald also clarified policy and procedure for on-duty and off-duty law enforcement personnel entering through the screening station.

In closing, McDonald informed the Committee of some notable activities for this year. There is the potential for three or four high-risk security trials in the upcoming months. The Sheriff's Department training exercises are being conducted in the County campus buildings on the two furlough days in 2010.

Marks and McDonald conveyed their thanks to Krahn for his years of dedication to Waukesha County and congratulated him on his upcoming retirement.

Public Comment

Judge Domina thanked Morris for the invitation to the Judiciary and Law Enforcement Committee meeting. Following introductions, Judge Domina gave a brief statement. Judge Bohren extended an invitation to everyone to attend the investiture ceremony for Judge Domina on February 25th.

Approve Minutes of January 15, 2010

MOTION: Tortomasi moved, second by Wolff, to approve the minutes of January 15, 2010.
Motion carried 6-0.

Executive Committee Report

Morris gave of summary of the items discussed at the January 25th Executive Committee meeting.

- Update on Waukesha County Information Technology Projects: CAD geo-based system selection, tax system, countywide cashing, tract index system, HHS automation, HR system update, electronic content management
- Presentation and discussion of general controls audit of information technology network operations
- Approval of two ordinances and two appointments
- Committee updates.

Reports from Committee Member Liaisons

- Tortomasi provided a brief update on the CAD system selection. The process is ongoing and progressing very slowly. Cindy Greco is contacting vendors to find out the reasons they did not following through with submitting their bids. Only three vendors submitted bids and one pulled out. Possible issues with the grid system are being addressed.
- Morris reported on the PPAC Effective Justice Strategies Subcommittee meeting held in Madison. The Subcommittee is looking at ways to reduce the cost of incarceration and ways to manage inmates. Four critical issues have been identified: improvement of the court funding structure, sentencing reforms and alternatives, alcohol and drug related offenses and self-represented litigants. A speaker discussed Act 100 (OWI legislation) and the possible ramifications to the courts systems when it is enacted on July 1st.

Future Meeting Dates

- March 12, 2010

Future Agenda Items

- Tour of Medical Examiner Facility
- Update on the Secured Corridor Bids
- Tour of Ethan Allan School (Decker)

A possible future agenda item regarding Sheriff's Department response/follow-up to citizen 9-1-1 calls was discussed at length; the issue was resolved and removed from the list of possible future agenda items.

Wolff left at 9:54

Legislative Update

Krahn distributed a handout titled *2009 Legislation, Judiciary Committee, 2-12-10*. Krahn briefly reviewed the status of select legislative items as outlined.

Krahn informed the Committee of the Human Services Day event at the Capital on March 4, 2010. Volunteers are being sought to go to Madison to meet with legislators that day. Krahn advised lunch

would be provided. Krahn suggested that Mary Pedersen in the County Board Office could provide further information to anyone interested in attending.

Meeting Approval

MOTION: Cummings moved, second by Decker to approve expenses for any committee members attending the Human Services Day at the Capital on March 4, 2010. Motion carried: 5-0.

Morris and Committee thanked Krahn for his years of dedicated service to Waukesha County and congratulated him on his upcoming retirement.

MOTION: Decker moved, second by Falstad, to adjourn at 10:12 a.m.
Motion carried: 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen M. Cummings
Secretary